HB 509 (Ballinger-23rd)  Bill Link
Expands the crime of burglary in the first and second degrees to include when a person enters the house, or other specified building or structure, of another person with the intent to commit an act of family violence.
Status: PASSED HOUSE. Recommended Do Pass by the Senate Children and Families Committee. The bill rests in Senate Rules Committee.

SB 36 (Robertson-29th)  Bill Link
Makes the crimes of pimping and pandering penalized by a felony with one to 10 years of imprisonment. A person who commits a second or subsequent offense of pimping, or who commits a second or subsequent offense of pandering, will be penalized by a felony, with imprisonment of one to 10 years, and a mandatory minimum of one year. The court can depart from either crimes' mandatory minimum if it deems in its discretion that the sentence is not in the interest of justice, although the court must state its findings on the record when doing so. Multiple Code sections are also revised to broaden the eligibility for vacating of sentences when a victim of human trafficking commits a crime while trafficked but is not technically convicted since they were sentenced as a felony first offender. The bill adds a provision that makes a person guilty of a misdemeanor when they bring a weapon or long gun while on the property of the Georgia World Congress Center, or on the property of a locality during a private event involving a gated entry and ticketing, and on which alcohol is licensed to be sold. This is limited to three consecutive days, and it only applies when the government and the private party have contractually agreed that the private entity will indemnify the government for acts occurring on the property during the events. This provision may not be implemented more than two times in a calendar year. The crime of aggravated assault is modified to include when someone immediately exits a vehicle and discharges a firearm at a person, an occupied motor vehicle, or an occupied building. The crime of criminal damage to property in the first degree is modified to include when someone knowingly and without justification causes damage to a building by discharging a firearm while inside a vehicle or after immediately exiting a motor vehicle. This also increases the penalty for second or subsequent violations to imprisonment of between five and 20 years. The bill creates a new crime of drive-by shooting when a person who is either in a motor vehicle or is close to a motor vehicle that they used to drive to the location, discharges a firearm at another person, motor vehicle, or dwelling, with the intent to injure. The penalty is imprisonment of between five and 20 years. Penalties for drive-by shootings that result in serious bodily injuries or are against a person under the age of 16 years old are also imprisonment of between five to 20 years. The crime of drive-by shooting is added to the list of statutes that are eligible to be prosecuted under the racketeering influenced and corrupt organizations (RICO) framework. (Note this bill has been amended to include a number of policies from other bills.)
Status: PASSED SENATE. Recommended Do Pass by the House Judiciary Non-Civil Committee. The bill rests in House Rules Committee.

SB 64 (Robertson-64th)  Bill Link
Allows an adult who had been adopted to request and receive a copy of their original Georgia birth certificate following payment of a fee. The copy will indicate it is not a certified copy. A parent, sibling, or descendant of a deceased person may receive a copy of the decedent's birth certificate under the same procedure.
Status: PASSED SENATE. Recommended Do Pass by the House Judiciary Committee. The bill was POSTPONED ON THE HOUSE FLOOR.

SB 107 (Burns-23rd)  Bill Link
"Izzy's Law" - Requires the Department of Public Health to develop a model safety plan for private swim instructors to utilize by January 1, 2024. The plan will include minimum standards for student-to-instructor ratios, secondary supervision recommendations, parent or legal guardian attendance, and use of cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) certification. All private swim instructors are required to have an aquatic safety plan by April 1, 2024. Any instructor in violation is subject to a misdemeanor charge and a minimum fine of $200 for the first and second violation, and a $1,000 maximum fine for third and subsequent violations.